



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Riverside Police Department maintains its commitment to serving a diverse community.

Understanding people from different ethnic, racial and cultural background is an essential professional skill in the modern world. In the areas of public service it is not a choice – it is survival. This year the Riverside Police Department marks its 10th anniversary of continuous diversity and racial profiling training as a part of its CIT (Critical Issues and Tactics) program. The CIT Program provides each Riverside Police Officer with 40 hours of essential training in subjects that include defensive tactics, active shooter, and diversity training.

The diversity training was designed and taught by Dr. Elena Romine – a UCR, Extension cross-cultural instructor and consultant, and has developed into a functional example of productive collaboration between academia and law enforcement. The content of the training was collaboration between the UCR Extension staff and the Riverside Police Department. The collaboration resulted in an academic course offering practical relevance, and real life situations.

In January 2011, the Riverside Police Department expanded the diversity program offered during CIT training by inviting international students attending UCR's extension program to attend the training for cultural dialogue. Students from countries such as Korea, China, Japan, Congo, Mexico, France, and Brazil, Saudi Arabia, and Guatemala have participated in the training and provide pieces to the complex diversity puzzle that Riverside Police Department officers face daily. The dialogue between the students and officers has enhanced the department's knowledge of foreign cultures, and the diversity that exists, more specifically, how the Riverside Police Department can better interact with different cultures.

The introduction of international students to the CIT Program is just another example of the Riverside Police Department's commitment to the enriching our relationship with the community we serve. Anyone seeking more information regarding the Riverside Police Department's diversity training can contact Sergeant Russ Shubert at 951-826-5865.

